

Replace the second full paragraph on page 5 with:

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The volatile mass loss is favorably reduced by at least about five percent by mass, more preferably ten percent by mass. In the embodiment in which boron is the volatile, the reduction of the loss of boron through volatilization is at least about ten percent by weight.

**In the Claims:**

Please Cancel Claim 2 and Claim 3.

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1. (First Amendment) A method for preparing a glass composition, said method comprising forming a batch of glass-forming components by admixing a volatile component source containing a volatile selected from the group consisting of boron and heavy metals; a silicate compound of the formula  $K_uNa_vAl_wCa_xMgySiO_z$ , wherein K is potassium, Na is sodium, Al is aluminum, Ca is calcium, Mg is magnesium, Si is silica, and O is oxygen and u, v and w, independently range from about 0.1 to about 0.5; x and y independently range from about 0.1 to about 0.6; z is a value which balances the empirical formula; and other glass-forming components; melting and refining the batch of glass forming components in a furnace the resultant melt to obtain a glass composition; wherein said glass composition has a reduced variability of oxides distribution measured at the fee end of said furnace or a reduces loss of said volatile component than a glass composition having an equivalent composition produced without using said silicate compound.

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-6 were originally filed. Claims 1-6 are pending in this application. Claims 1-6 are rejected. Claim 1 has been Amended and Claim 2 and 3 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1 and 4 - 6 are now before Examiner.